

BOROUGH OF DARWEN



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR

1970



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Public Health Dept.
Darwen*

B O R O U G H O F D A R W E N

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year

1970



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b2915246x>

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH, HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

1970 - 1971

COUNCILLOR G. HARWOOD, MAYOR

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR J. ELLISON

VICE-CHAIRMAN

COUNCILLOR B. LAWRENCE

ALD. A. BARNES

COUNC. T. HARDMAN

ALD. P.S. HUNT

COUNC. DR. H.W. LEES

ALD. C.W. JONES, J.P.

COUNC. J.M. LONGWORTH

ALD. MISS. C. MARSDEN

COUNC. W.P. McALLISTER

ALD. A. PRESTON

COUNC. J. McGLYNN

ALD. E. YATES

COUNC. T.L. SOUTHWORTH

COUNC. P.H.H.W. CLEAR

COUNC. J. SWANTON

COUNC. D.J. DUCKWORTH

COUNC. C. TALBOT

COUNC. MRS. J. GOULDSBROUGH

COUNC. H. TORKINGTON

COUNC. C.R. GRILLS

COUNC. R.V.G. WALTERS

JOHN CHADWICK FILDING, M.B.,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND TOWN CLERK

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	(R.C. Webster, T.D., B.Sc.,
Divisional Medical Officer,	(M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.,
Lancashire County Council	((Resigned 14/12/70)
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	(Sheila M. Hutchinson,
Senior Assistant Divisional	(L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council ..	(L.R.F.P. & S., D.R.C.O.G.,
	(D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	(H. Ramsbottom, M.A.P.H.I.,
	(C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat
	(and Other Foods.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	(P.H. Watson, M.A.P.H.I.,
	(C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat
	(and Other Foods.
District Public Health Inspectors	(T. Gregson, M.A.P.H.I.,
	(C.P.H.I.E.B., Dip. Insp. Meat
	(and Other Foods. Dip. Air
	(Pollution Control.
	(B. Taylor, Dip. P.H.I.L.B.
Technical Assistant	(F. Fownley.
Chief Clerk	(J. Bolton.
Clerical Staff	(Miss. M.A. Hoyle.
	(Miss. G. Bradshaw.
Rodent Operator	(H. Brady.
Municipal Hostel, Warden	(R.W. Kilpatrick.
Matron	(Mrs. P. Kilpatrick.
Mortuary Attendant	(A. Bowcock.

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Child Welfare & Diphtheria Immunisation	Civic Health Centre	Monday 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
	St. Chad's Clinic	Wednesday 10 a.m.	
	Spring Vale Clinic	Tuesday 2 p.m.	
Ante-Natal	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
		Friday 2 p.m. (Specialist)	
Ante-Natal Relaxation	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
Maternity & Child Welfare Dental and School Dental	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
School Clinics	Civic Health Centre	Minor Ailments Monday to Friday	Lancashire County Council
Ophthalmic	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Cytology	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday Fortnightly 9.30 a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Ear, Nose and Throat	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council

.. continued over ..

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CENTRE OR CLINIC	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Orthopaedic	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Chiropodist	Civic Health Centre	Monday to Friday a.m. and p.m. Except Wednesday a.m. only (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Cardiac Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn.	1st Tuesday in every month 11 a.m. (by appointment)	Blackburn and District Hospital Management Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn.	Tuesday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 10 to 11.15 a.m. and 1.40 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon.	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Royal Infirmary, Blackburn	Males and Females Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
B.C.G. Vaccination Prevention of Tuberculosis	Civic Health Centre also Royal Infirmary Blackburn	By appointment By appointment	Lancashire County Council Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Poliomyelitis	Civic Health Centre St. Chad's Clinic Spring Vale Clinic	Monday p.m. Thursday p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. Tuesday 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council

CIVIC HEALTH CENTRE,
DARWEN.

September, 1971.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to introduce the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for 1970.

At the end of the year Dr. R.C. Webster retired after having been your Medical Officer of Health for over thirty years.

The vital statistics are comparable with previous years. During the year there were 468 Live Births, giving a birth rate of 18.3 per thousand, as opposed to the national average of 16.0. There were 428 deaths, giving a Death Rate of 14.6 as compared to the national average of 11.7. There were eleven Infant Deaths.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases does not call for any particular comment.

I am sure that Dr. Webster would wish me to convey his indebtedness to Mr. H. Ramsbottom your Chief Public Health Inspector and Mr. P.H. Watson, his Deputy, and to all the staff of the Public Health Department for their unfailing help in the year. Dr. Webster would also wish me to convey his thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Town Clerk and other Officers, for their assistance in the work of the Department.

Yours faithfully,

P.M. Sammon,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1

Statistics and Social Conditions

General Provisions of the Health Services

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

BY

R.C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY of STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1970

GENERAL
INFORMATION

Geographical Position	Lat. 53°41' 25" N Lon. 2°28' 32" W
Elevation above sea level	500 ft. to over 800 ft.
Geological formation	Boulder clay and sand over coal measures.
Area (in acres)	5,959
Population - Census, 1961	29,452
Population - Registrar General's Mid-year Estimate for 1970	28,500
Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1961	10,532
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1970	10,586
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers at Census, 1961	10,532
Rateable Value	£957,564
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£3,750

The inhabitants are mainly of the artisan, or working class, and the principal industries are cotton weaving, paper making and staining, plastic and paint manufacturing and engineering trades.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	225	208	433	Birth-rate per 1,000
	(Illegitimate	14	21	35	estimated home
	(Total	239	229	468	Population mid 1970
					Crude 16.5
STILL BIRTHS	(Legitimate	3	4	7	Adjusted 18.3
	(Illegitimate	1	0	1	Rate per 1,000
	(Total	4	4	8	total Births
					16.9
DEATHS	(..... 199	229	428	Death-rate per	
	(1,000 estimated	
	(home population	
	(mid 1970	
MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION	(Crude 15.1	
	(Respiratory T.B.			Adjusted 14.9	
	(
	(Malignant Neoplasms, etc				
MATERNAL MORTALITY	(Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and				
	(Abortion			Nil	
	(Mortality Rate per 1,000 total Births			Nil	
		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
INFANTILE MORTALITY (Infants under the age of one year)	(Legitimate				
	(Infants ...	6	4	10	
	(Illegitimate				
	(Infants ...	1	0	1	
	(Total Deaths	7	4	11	
	Rate per 1,000 Live Births				24

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

YEAR	DAIRWEN	ENGLAND AND WALES
1961	16.0	21.4
1962	6.2	21.4
1963	30.7	20.9
1964	25.7	20.0
1965	10.5	19.0
1966	27.7	19.0
1967	19.0	19.0
1968	21.0	18.5
1969	18.0	18.0
1970	24.0	18.0

OTHER INFANT DEATHS

TOTAL

RATE PER
1,000
POPULATION

Deaths from Measles (at all ages) ..	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (at all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil	Nil

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age	6
Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	15

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births	11
---	----

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths	27
--	----

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 468, giving a birth-rate adjusted by comparison with the estimated home populations of 18.3 per 1,000. The trend of this rate over the past ten years in comparison with the rate for England and Wales is shown in the following table:-

YEAR	DARWEN			RATE PER 1,000	ENGLAND AND WALES
	NUMBER OF BIRTHS				RATE PER 1,000
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL		
1961	250	250	500	18.2	17.4
1962	232	253	485	17.7	18.0
1963	255	266	521	19.6	18.2
1964	258	249	507	19.3	18.4
1965	246	228	474	18.1	18.1
1966	269	237	506	19.4	17.7
1967	260	255	515	19.9	17.2
1968	245	222	467	18.0	16.9
1969	236	215	451	17.5	16.3
1970	239	229	468	18.3	16.0

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS. The following table shows the number of illegitimate births and deaths for the past ten years:-

YEAR	NUMBER OF BIRTHS	RATE PER CENT OF LIVE BIRTHS	NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS
1961	28	5.60	Nil	Nil
1962	32	6.59	Nil	Nil
1963	35	6.71	1	28
1964	34	6.70	2	59
1965	32	6.75	Nil	Nil
1966	32	6.32	Nil	Nil
1967	49	9.51	3	61
1968	46	9.85	Nil	Nil
1969	41	9.09	Nil	Nil
1970	35	7.40	1	28

STILLBIRTHS - The table below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years.

YEAR	NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	
	LEGITIMATE	ILLEGITIMATE	TOTAL		DARWEN	ENGLAND & WALES
1961	10	4	14	27.2	0.47	0.33
1962	5	2	7	14.2	0.23	0.33
1963	10	3	13	24.3	0.44	0.32
1964	7	3	10	19.3	0.34	0.31
1965	13	1	14	28.7	0.48	0.29
1966	9	1	10	19.4	0.34	0.28
1967	5	1	6	12.0	0.20	0.26
1968	10	Nil	10	21.0	0.34	0.24
1969	4	Nil	4	9.0	0.14	0.21
1970	7	1	8	16.9	0.28	0.21

DEATHS - The number of deaths of Darwen residents which occurred during the year was 428 representing an adjusted death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.6.

The trend of the death-rate of the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales:-

YEAR	DARWEN		ENGLAND AND WALES
	TOTAL DEATHS	RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
1961	480	15.9	12.0
1962	462	15.2	11.9
1963	451	15.3	12.2
1964	377	13.0	11.3
1965	417	13.9	11.5
1966	470	15.9	11.7
1967	417	14.4	11.2
1968	421	14.5	11.9
1969	405	14.1	11.9
1970	428	14.6	11.7

The following is a copy of the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases supplied by the Registrar General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Darwen residents.

The information does not include non-civilian deaths:-

B. LIST NUMBER	CAUSE TITLE	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
B. 1	Cholera	-	-	-
B. 2	Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
B. 3	Bacillary Dysentery & Amoebiasis	-	-	-
B. 4	Enteritis & Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1	1
B. 5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	-	-	-
B. 6(pt)	Late effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-
B. 6(rem)	Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-
B. 7	Plague	-	-	-
B. 8	Diphtheria	-	-	-
B. 9	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
B.10	Streptococcal Sore Throat and Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
B.11	Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
B.12	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
B.13	Smallpox	-	-	-
B.14	Measles	-	-	-
B.15	Typhus and Other Rickettsioses	-	-	-
B.16	Malaria	-	-	-
B.17	Syphilis and its Sequelae	-	-	-
B.18	All Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	-	-
B.19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	-	-	-
B.19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	4	-	4
B.19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	8	14
B.19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	3	7
B.19(5)	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	-	-	-
B.19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung & Bronchus ..	15	2	17
B.19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	4	4
B.19(8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	4	4
B.19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
B.19(10)	Leukamia	1	1	2
B.19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc	5	7	12
B.20	Benign Neoplasms & Neoplasms of Unspecified Nature	-	-	-
B.21	Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
B.22	Avitaminoses & Other Nutritional Deficiency	-	-	-
B.46(1)	Other Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases	1	-	1
B.23	Anaemias	-	1	1
B.46(pt)	Other Diseases of Blood and Blood Forming Organs	-	-	-
B.46(pt)	Mental Disorders	-	-	-

B. LIST NUMBER	CAUSE TITLE	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
B.24	Meningitis	-	-	-
B.46(4)	Multiple Sclerosis	1	-	1
B.46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System ..	-	2	2
B.25	Active Rheumatic Fever	-	-	-
B.26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	1	3	4
B.27	Hypertensive Disease	4	6	10
B.28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	64	50	114
B.29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	12	14	26
B.30	Cerebrovascular Disease	17	45	62
B.46(6)	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	2	5	7
B.31	Influenza	-	6	6
B.32	Pneumonia	15	22	37
B.33(1)	Bronchitis, Emphysema	23	16	39
B.33(2)	Asthma	-	1	1
B.46(7)	Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	5	3	8
B.34	Peptic Ulcer	3	1	4
B.35	Appendicitis	-	1	1
B.36	Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia ...	1	1	2
B.37	Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	-
B.46(8)	Other Diseases of the Digestive System	2	5	7
B.38	Nephritis & Nephrosis	2	-	2
B.39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
B.46(9)	Other Diseases of the Genito- Urinary System	2	4	6
B.46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
B.40	Abortion	-	-	-
B.41	Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth & Puerperium	-	-	-
B.46(10)	Diseases of the Skin & Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
B.42	Congenital Anomalies	1	2	3
B.43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour & Other Anoxic & Hypoxic Conditions	3	1	4
B.44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	-	-
B.45	Symptoms & Ill-Defined Conditions	-	-	-
BE.47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-
BE.48	All Other Accidents	-	3	3
BE.49	Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injuries .	2	2	4
BE.50	All Other External Causes	-	2	2
TOTALS:-		199	229	428

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

A comprehensive range of services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics, Speech Therapy Clinics and other School Health Services - Medical and Dental.

Ambulance service is provided by Lancashire County Council.

Hospital services are provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board, including general hospital facilities in Blackburn and a Maternity Home at Bull Hill.

LABORATORY FACILITIES The Pathological and Bacteriological Department of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the examination of pathological specimens for the Borough of Darwen, in accordance with the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The bacteriological examination of food, water and other non-personal specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, acting for the Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, is shown in the following tables, which includes particulars of Darwin cases notified and accepted. The so-called minor infectious diseases, other than measles and whooping cough, are not included in the tables, as they are not notifiable in Darwin and, therefore, statistics as to their incidence are not reliable.

	MEASLES (EXCLUDING RUBELLA)		DYSENTERY		SCARLET FEVER		DIPH- THERIA		ACUTE MENINGITIS		ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS PARALYTIC		NON PARALYTIC	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year	2	2	2											
1 "	9	6												
2 Years	11	9	1						1					
3 "	12	5	2											
4 "	10	5	1	1										
5 - 9 "	15	11		2	3									
10 - 14 "	2	1		1										
15 - 24 "				2										
25 and over			1	1										
Age Unknown														
TOTAL	61	39	7	7	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

	ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS INFECTIVE		POST INFECTIOUS		LEPTRO- SPIROSIS		PARA TYPHOID FEVER		FOOD POISONING	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 Years										
5 - 14 "										1
15 - 44 "										1
45 - 64 "										1
65 and over										1
Age Unknown										
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4

.. continued over ..

	TETANUS		INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year				
1 Year				
2 - 4 Years				1
5 - 9 "			1	1
10 - 14 "				
15 - 19 "				
20 - 24 "				
25 - 34 "				1
35 - 44 "				
45 - 54 "				
55 - 64 "				
65 - 74 "				
75 and over			1	
Age Unknown				
TOTAL			2	3

AGE PERIODS	WHOOPIING COUGH	
	M	F
Under 3 Months		
6 "		
9 "		
1 Year		
2 - 4 Years	2	
5 - 9 "		4
10 - 14 "		
15 - 19 "		
20 - 24 "		
25 - 34 "		
35 - 44 "		
45 - 54 "		
55 - 64 "		
65 - 74 "		
75 and over		
Age Unknown		
TOTAL	2	4

MALES	FEMALES
SMALLPOX	
-	-
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	
-	-
ANTHRAX	
-	-
YELLOW FEVER	
-	-

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL AND DEATHS FROM
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	HOSPITAL		TOTAL DEATHS
	CASES REMOVED	DEATHS IN HOSPITAL	
DYSENTERY	3	-	-
MEASLES	1	-	-
FOOD POISONING	-	-	-
INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	2	-	-

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years:-

DISEASE	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	59	15	25	11	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding Rubella)	253	355	46	481	100
Whooping Cough	9	84	12	-	6
(A) Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenza)	-	-	1	-	-
(A) Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	-	-
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS:-					
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS:-					
Infective	-	-	-	-	-
Post Infectious	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	8	60	125	39	14
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
(A) Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-
Leptospirosis	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	1
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	17	4	4
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	-	-	9	34	5
TOTALS:-	334	516	236	569	133

(A) Notified to 30th September, 1968.

TUBERCULOSIS Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board.

The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board, but the Area Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse maintain close co-operation with the Public Health Department, furnishing particulars about housing conditions and environment generally. The necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease during 1970:-

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 74	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
75 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	3	4	-	4	-	-	-	-
	7		4		-		-	

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis placed on the Register during the last ten years:-

YEAR	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1961	5	2	-	-	7
1962	4	2	-	-	6
1963	11	2	-	-	13
1964	8	1	-	-	9
1965	3	2	-	2	7
1966	2	1	1	-	4
1967	3	2	-	2	7
1968	1	1	1	-	3
1969	2	-	1	-	3
1970	3	4	-	4	11

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE
ACT, 1948 AND 1951
Section 47.

No action taken under this Section.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services for the year 1970.

At the end of the year further inroads had been made into the systematic clearance of unfit houses and the Ashton Street Compulsory Purchase Order had been confirmed.

Further Orders had been submitted to the Ministry during the year, the Ellenshaw Areas and the Brunswick Street Area.

The Brunswick Street Area although small in size was the completion of a larger area comprising Malta Street and part of Hannah Street.

Steady progress is also being made with Smoke Control Areas and at the end of the year numbers 6 and 7 Smoke Control Orders had been confirmed to come into operation on the 1st July, 1971.

Vandalism continues to cause concern and costs the Corporation a great deal of money in bricking-up unoccupied houses.

It is also worthy of note that vandalism can and has caused changes in the priority of clearance areas and the programme has to be constantly revised because of this.

There is very little progress to be reported regarding General Improvement Areas. Whilst individual owner occupiers of better class houses in the town continue to take advantage of the improvement grants available, there has been a marked lack of enthusiasm by occupiers of houses in the streets of the Ellenshaw Area which the Corporation recommended should be the first area to be considered in conjunction with clearance and redevelopment of another part of the area.

At the end of the year Mr. J. Bolton who had been Chief Clerk in the Office since 1949 and had been dogged by ill health for the preceding two years, retired on medical grounds and I would like to express my appreciation of Mr. Bolton's long and valued service whilst in the employment of the Department.

In conclusion I would like to thank Dr. Webster and Dr. Hutchinson for their help and also the staff and employees of the Department, particularly my Deputy, Mr. P.H. Watson, for their keenness and co-operation and finally to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I am Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. Ramsbottom,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The town is served by the Fylde Water Board. Water is supplied as follows:-

- (a) The high level Sunnyhurst storage reservoir which was constructed in 1875. Situated over 900 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 92 million gallons.
- (b) The lower level Earnsdale impounding reservoir constructed in 1863. Situated over 700 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 100 million gallons.

When reservoir stocks are depleted to a level below the control line, the difference is made up by bringing water from the Fishmoor Treatment Plant at Blackburn.

Work completed in recent years to improve the Darwen supply system consists of:-

- (a) The construction at Sunnyhurst of a reinforced concrete clear water tank of 0.8 million gallons capacity, covered with an aluminium roof.
- (b) The construction of a similar type of tank at Earnsdale of 0.9 million gallons capacity.
- (c) The Earnsdale pump house, which is a brick built super-structure on a reinforced concrete sub-structure.
- (d) The renovation of two existing slow sand filters at Sunnyhurst.
- (e) The construction of a new building at Sunnyhurst to house lime dosing equipment, and a further building to house the ozone treatment plant, together with mess room accommodation.

Extension of Water Mains during 1970

Extension of water mains during the year was as follows

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| (a) to existing dwellings | 144.5 metres |
| (b) to new dwellings | 2707 metres |
| (c) to other development | 1857 metres |

Dwelling houses connected

(a) New connections to existing houses	6
(b) To new houses	154
Total	160

Rainfall on the Watershed for 1970 was 1278.9 m.m. (approximately 50").

No new sources of supply have been brought into use during the year.

The Board are responsible for Plumbo-Solvent action and precautions are taken for removal of organic matter and removal of pH value.

Typical analysis of water from the two reservoirs are as follows:-

	<u>Sunnyhurst</u> High Level Supply	<u>Earnsdale</u> Low Level Supply
Appearance	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright
Colour (Hazen p.p.m. Ft)	8	3
Turbidity (p.p.m. Silica)	0.7	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil
Taste	Normal	Normal
Reaction pH Value	7.0	7.8
Electrical Conductivity umho/cc	130	100
	p.p.m.	
Residual Chlorine	0.15	0.10
Free & Saline Ammonia as N ₂	0.13	0.06
Albuminoid Ammonia as N ₂	0.08	0.02
Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂	negligible	negligible
Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂	0.32	0.46
Oxygen absorbed 4 hrs @ 27°C	0.54	0.54
Free Acidity as CO ₂	-	-
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	34	6
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	48	30
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	14	24
Excess Alkalinity as Na ₂ CO ₃	Nil	Nil
Calcium as CaCO ₃	35	23
Magnesium as CaCO ₃	12	7
Total Solids dried at 180°C	102	82
Chloride as Cl	15	17
Sulphate as SO ₄	33	21
Lead as Pb	- less than 0.05 -	-
Manganese as Mn	0.03	0.05
Copper as Cu	-	-
Iron as Fe	0.08	0.08
Aluminium as Al ₂ O ₃	0.05	0.06
Fluoride as F	- less than 0.10 -	-

During the year the Fylde Water Board took a total of 96 samples from the reservoirs.

78 examinations of the water supply were carried out by the Water Board from the taps of domestic users during the year.

In addition occasional samples are taken by the Health Department after complaints.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied direct with public water is 10,386.

In an effort to encourage owners of property to install separate service pipes where the pressure is low, the Corporation and the Fylde Water Board pay half the cost of the installation.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

There are still a number of dwellings in the town which because of their situation have to rely on private water supplies and these are sampled at regular intervals. Users are advised on precautionary measures while steps are being taken for permanent purification. In addition every effort is made to change these private supplies to the public supply where practicable.

TABLES

CORPORATION

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	Nil	Nil	Nil
Private supply	14	4	10

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Mains supply	40	36	4
Private supply	30	11	19

The unsatisfactory chemical examinations were due to soft waters having a residual plumbo solvent action in the supply pipes.

FYLDE WATER BOARD

EXAMINATION OF WATER FROM DOMESTIC USERS

TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
78	76	2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
Reservoirs	96	91	5

EXAMINATION OF WATER FROM THE PUBLIC BATHS

	TOTAL	SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
	40	36	4

The method of treatment is continuous filtration with a turnover period of 4 hours.

The unsatisfactory samples were due to temporary faults in the treatment of the water which were quickly rectified.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

During the year a further 13 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water system. The total now remaining is 458.

It is interesting to note that in 1949, 18% of premises in the Borough used waste water closets and the figure is now approximately 4%.

Apart from farms, pail closets total 28 in all, of which 5 are for country cottages the rest being used in the Parks and isolated sites.

The number of septic tanks is now 32.

The table below gives the closet accommodation in the Borough:

Pails	28
Water Closets	14,525
Waste Water Closets	458
Total	15,011

Conversions and Installations during 1970 :-

New Water Closets fixed	150
Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets	13
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets	10
Baths installed during the year	54
Showers installed during the year	1
Waste Water Closets dismantled	1
Water Closets dismantled	89

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Darwen continues to be polluted by industrial waste effluents and used as a dumping ground for unwanted refuse.

CLEAN AIR

On the domestic front, the implementation of smoke control was made more difficult by the short supply of solid smokeless fuels and the Corporation resolved to apply to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for a temporary suspension of existing smoke control orders. This was granted initially for a period of three months but at the end of this time because the supply of solid smokeless fuels had gradually deteriorated a further suspension was sought which was granted for a period of twelve months ending on the 30th April, 1971.

In spite of these set backs the Corporation have continued with their programme of smoke control and Orders No. 6 and 7 were confirmed in October 1970 to come into operation on the 1st July, 1971.

In the meantime inspections were proceeding on the No. 8 Area which was scheduled to come into operation in the autumn of 1971.

When the No. 8 Area is in operation this will have completed a further important phase in the Clean Air programme as there will then be large smokeless areas on both the North and South sides of the town.

In the northern part of the town a continuous area from the Blackburn boundary to a line bounded by Hollins Grove Street and the northern side of Earnsdale Road will be smokeless whilst in the south a continuous area from the Turton boundary to a line bounded by Epworth Street and Grimshaw Street will also be smokeless.

The next area to be surveyed is the proposed No. 9 Area which will involve a total of 365 premises in the Earnsdale Area to be followed by an adjoining area in the Harwood Street/Avondale Road district.

Details of Smoke Control Areas as at 31st December, 1970

	No. 1 (1962) 1/10/63	No. 2 (1966) 1/7/67	No. 3 (1967) 1/8/68	No. 3A (1967) 1/10/68	No. 4 (1969) 31/10/69	No. 5 (1969) 1/7/70
Acreage	394	121	206	12	253	90
Private dwellings	551	401	418	242	359	296
Commercial premises	3	3	2	10	9	6
Industrial premises	6	4	6	7	8	2
Others	10	30	27	38	Nil	3

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Routine inspections and registration of new premises continue under the provisions of the Act which is now firmly established in the daily work of the Office.

Regular visits ensure that infringements are reduced to the minimum and when discovered are mainly of a minor nature and are soon remedied.

The number of premises registered showed a slight increase on the previous year.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

1 accident was reported.

A total of 155 visits were made throughout the year.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	43	218
Retail Shops	81	386
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	4	20
Catering Establishments and Canteens	17	113
Fuel Storage Depots	2	23
	<u>147</u>	<u>760</u>

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	5	42	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	146	247	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises)	14	15	Nil	Nil
Total:-	165	304	Nil	Nil

PART V111 of the Act - Outwork

Section 133				Section 134		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices served	Prose- cutions
Wearing Apparel Making	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In all a total of 262 visits were made to Factories throughout the year and the defects found mainly in connection with the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences were quickly remedied and did not require official action.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following, two tripe boilers, one fat extractor and one fat melter operated in the district until their closure in early October.

MUNICIPAL HOSTEL

This building was built in 1897 as a model lodging house for casual workers and other coming into the town. It is now a permanent hostel providing communal living accommodation for nearly 150 occupants.

The average daily number of lodgers for the year was:

Males	78.58
Females	7.55

240 visits were made to the Hostel throughout the year.

The average number of lodgers has continued to decrease over the past year and a further increase in the admission charges had to be made to cover the running costs of the building.

Average daily number of lodgers over the past five years are as follows

<u>Year</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1969	84.20	10.90
1968	97.21	13.01
1967	94.11	12.08
1966	104.84	12.47
1965	126.22	13.81

RODENT CONTROL

As in most towns with a development background of the industrial age of the late 19th century, certain areas of Darwen are known to be rat-prone and consequently are regularly and vigorously surveyed. Infestations are therefore contained to a minimum and little scope is given to movement of rat population outwards to surrounding areas. Areas covering the River Darwen and its tributaries which exist in the town centre, undeveloped clearance areas and a number of "ancient" sewerage systems can be relied on to maintain a limited number of rats and in the light of experience only complete modernisation of these areas will reduce the rodent menace to a minimum.

Irresponsible dumping of rubbish and refuse, badly managed building sites with poor canteen facilities, the age old custom of feeding the birds throughout the year and the dereliction of vacated property by wanton vandalism all result in the possibility of the encouragement of rodents.

Anti-coagulant poisons still prove effective and kill rats in the Borough.

Mice, as previously reported, are troublesome to eradicate and disinfection methods vary according to circumstances. Alphachloralose performs a useful service and it has occasionally been found necessary to use more toxic poisons such as arsenic. Nests of mice are still found in unusual places i.e. the insulation of a refrigerator, a disused carpet sweeper and cupboard drawers being some examples. Young mice are being found in most months of the year especially in domestic disinfections indicating that breeding conditions must be approaching the ideal in many circumstances. One can speculate on the improved environment being beneficial to the life cycle of the rodent as well as the life span of homo-sapiens!

Private disinfection companies continue to play their part in industry and commerce and prove very co-operative with the Department.

PEST CONTROL

Cockroaches continue to be a constant source of nuisance and prove difficult to eradicate. The harbourage provided for their development especially in some of the older terraced dwellings where flagged floors, random stone walls and poorly built up fireplace openings predominate effects formidable protection for their defence. Ruthless and systematic structural work has therefore been necessary to find the hot bed of infestation in order to guarantee clearance from infestation. Slum Clearance of dwellings has also been blamed for the migration of cockroaches to near by dwellings.

No unusual insect infestations were discovered during the year, the wasp, fly and golden spider beetle seasons providing the usual crop of routine disinfections.

It is worthy of comment to remark that the problem of condensation in many properties has brought requests to advise on the appearance of psocids - book lice - which although of no public health significance are aesthetically objectionable.

These tiny insects vary in colour according to the minute fungi they feed on and are seen in kitchens where unit systems are popular.

NO. OF PREMISES INSPECTED	NO. OF PREMISES FOUND INFESTED	NO. OF TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT	
		FULL	TEST
486	114	114	278

SEWER TREATMENTS

DATE	NO. OF MANHOLES TREATED
April	258
October	256

LICENSED PREMISES

The steady progress in the modernisation of licensed premises in the town continues.

Breweries are also co-operating well in sponsoring facilities for the preparation of snacks and meals. Licensees who prepare meals are being encouraged to improve standards and many attend courses for this purpose.

59 inspections and 126 reinspections were made throughout the year.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The culverting, embanking and, as far as possible purification of the river.

The clearance of derelict and neglected sites.

The reduction of the number of private water supplies and the purification and protection of the remainder.

The river at certain dry periods of the year is virtually an open drain, receiving industrial effluent and rubbish discarded by irresponsible people.

Derelict and neglected sites still abound and encourage the dumping of rubbish and old vehicles. Weeds tend to flourish, although these are now being systematically reduced and it is hoped that the measures now being taken will reduce the annual weed growth to a minimum.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE ARLA

Number of houses visited	1,122
Number of inspections of factories and workplaces	262
Number of inspections of bakehouses	42
Number of inspections of refuse tips	16
Complaints received and investigated	370
Number of re-inspections made	6,289
Visits paid to houses (re cases of infectious diseases) ...	34
Number of smoke observations taken	6
Number of drains tested	171
Total number of defects discovered	240
Informal notices served	240
Statutory notices served	78
Number of nuisances abated, included outstanding nuisances from previous year	307

LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED

Defective drains	105
Choked and defective sewers	7
Defective soil pipes and water closets	3
Defective downspouts, gutters, roofs and external walls ..	24
Defective plastering	14
Defective roofs and damp walls	18
Dirty houses and premises	0
Dirty and dilapidated closet buildings	0
Accumulation of refuse	0
Defective fire-ranges	0
Choked waste water closets	14
Choked water closets	15
Insanitary yards	1
Defective internal floors	5
Insufficient ventilation	1
Burst water pipes	0
Miscellaneous nuisances	33

H O U S I N G

The table below gives particulars of action taken specifically under the provisions of the Housing Acts in contradistinction to action under the Public Health Acts.

STATISTICS

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year:

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	149
(i) By Local Authority	99
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	50
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:-	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a)(i) above)	Nil
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a)(iii) above)	Nil

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year:

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	177
(2) Number of inspections made for both purposes	557
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	49
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	0

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	7
---	---

Action under statutory powers during the year.
Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:-	
Preliminary	4
Statutory	4
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
By owners	Nil
By Local Authority in default of owners	2

Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	15
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in ownership of Local Authority dealt with in accordance with Section 3(3A) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, as directed in Appendix 11 of Circular 33/56 with a view to demolition	0
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	50
(iv) Number of houses demolished where action has been taken under Section 53 of the Over Darwen Improvement Act, 1879	21

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 and HOUSING
ACTS, 1961 and 1964. STANDARD GRANTS

Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	285
(b) reduced standard	Nil
Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard	285
(b) reduced standard	Nil
Work completed	252

OVERCROWDING

Overcrowding as to mixed sexes in families, not involving legal overcrowding occurs from time to time, but with the help of the Housing Department these cases are quickly attended to.

CLEARANCE AREAS

Since the Housing Act 1969 came into operation the Corporation have proceeded to implement the Clearance Area programme and one area the Ashton Street No. 1 Area has been confirmed by the Ministry and demolition work is now being carried out.

The Ellenshaw Area which was the second area submitted was the subject of a public inquiry and has not yet been confirmed by the Ministry.

A third area, the Brunswick Street Area has been submitted to the Ministry for confirmation. No objections were received from residents to the proposed order.

This area although small in size is tied up with premises in Malta Street and part of Hannah Street which have already been demolished.

The total number of premises to be demolished in the areas scheduled to date is 297 which is keeping pace with the numbers recommended to be demolished for the period 1967 - 1970.

Further clearance areas to be dealt with within the next five years are

Ellenshaw No. 2 Area
Ashton Street No. 2 Area
Tockholes Road Area
Chapels Area
Part Exchange Street

7 premises were officially closed and 71 premises were demolished during the year.

It is interesting to note that since 1947, 1,117 properties have been demolished.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Two premises are used for multiple occupation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Local Authority, is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

The following licences have been issued under these Regulations.

Untreated Milk	16
Pasteurised Milk	25
Sterilised Milk	79
Ultra Heat Treated Milk ..	17
	<hr/>
Total	137
	<hr/>

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

		Results		
		Positive	Negative	No Result
Total No. of samples submitted	158			
Tuberculosis		Nil	45	113
Brucellosis Ring Test		12	144	3
" Culture Test		5	7	147
" Biological Test		Nil	51	107

The positive culture cases of Brucellosis were followed-up at the farms concerned, and as a result of individual sampling of the herds, the animals secreting positive Brucella organisms were isolated and later slaughtered.

Samples of Milk for Statutory Tests

	No. of Samples	Results		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void Samples
Raw Milk:				
Methylene Blue Test	156	126	8	22
Heat Treated Milk:				
Methylene Blue Test)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Phosphatase Test)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Turbidity Test	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colony Count Test	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The eight samples unsatisfactorily reported on were passed on for appropriate action to the Divisional Milk Officer.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Type of Business	No. Registered at end of year	No. of Inspections of registered premises during year
Preserved Food Manufacturers	20	42
Ice Cream Manufacturers	1	5
Ice Cream Retailers	129	154

Action taken under the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1959 and 1963.

Routine inspections of ice cream manufacturers was carried out. Six samples of ice cream were satisfactorily reported on as genuine.

No. of Samples	Description	Formal	Informal
39	Milks	3	36
1	Bovina Beef		1
1	Instant Coffee		1
1	Chicken Spread		1
1	Horseradish sauce		1
1	Go sauce aux champignons		1
1	Butter Sponge	1	
6	Pork Sausage		6
6	Beef Sausage		6
4	Meat Pies		4
1	Cheese		1
1	Blackcurrant Health Drink		1
2	Potted Salmon		2
2	Beef Paste		2
1	Beef Brown		1
1	Maggi Seasoning		1
1	Chicken Rissole		1
1	Baby Food		1
1	Meat Paste		1
1	Whole Jaffa Orange Drink		1
2	Cream Cakes		2
1	Creamola Foam Crystals		1
1	Liver Sausage		1
1	Limone Bibita Palma (Lemon Drink)		1

All were reported genuine with the exception of 2 samples beef sausage and one sample of pork sausage which were slightly low in meat content.

In addition 6 samples of sausage contained preservatives without the usual declaration by legible sign that this was so.

Four samples of milk were reported as low in solids not fat.

Legal proceedings taken with regard to offences in the preparation, storage, handling or sale of food.

- (1) Complaint of mouldy meat pies. Case dismissed.
- (2) Food handler smoking. Defendant fined £25 with £8: 8: 0d advocates fees.

Other action taken following complaints regarding food

- (1) Complaint of foreign matter in loaf. Investigations revealed the presence of particles of old dough in the loaf.
- (2) Complaint of foreign matter in loaf. This was found to be small fragments from a conveyor belt.
- (3) Complaint of mould in cheese slices. This was probably due to the covering material being damaged at some stage probably during transit.
- (4) Complaint of mould in walnut cake. Investigations revealed that the shelf life had been exceeded for this commodity.
- (5) Complaint of mould in Swiss Roll. The shelf life had again been exceeded in this case.
- (6) Complaint of small quantity of extraneous matter in bottle of mineral water. This was almost certainly due to a dirty bottle leaving the washing plant and being missed in the subsequent inspection.
- (7) Complaint of foreign body in a black pudding. This was found to be a small quantity of hessian string.
- (8) Complaint of film on the internal side of a mineral bottle. Investigations revealed that this was probably a bottle missed during inspection of bottles leaving the washing plant. The washing plant was working satisfactorily.
- (9) Complaint of small insects in tin of raspberries undetected during inspection of fruit prior to canning.

- (10) Complaint of butter sponge. This commodity was found to be wrongly labelled and did not contain butter. This was due to human error by the bakery staff when labelling the product.
- (11) Complaint of stain in sliced loaf. This was found to be a small quantity of vegetable oil which had almost certainly come from the slicing machine.

In all these cases the firms concerned, were formally warned by letter to take every care to prevent recurrence of this type of complaint.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1970

Type of Business	Number
General grocers and provision dealers	83
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc.)	29
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc.)	3
Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	37
Bakers and/or confectioners	35
Fried fish shops	24
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc	43
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	96
Basement Bakehouses	1
Others	Nil

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Food premises in general maintain a high standard and the regular visits of the Department's Inspectors help to remind food handlers of the importance of the Regulations.

Minor infringements were quickly remedied by informal action and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Total of 774 inspections with 752 re-inspections were carried out throughout the year.

UN SOUND FOOD

69 visits in all were made regarding the certification of food not fit for human consumption. These were in the main due to voluntary surrender by shopkeepers and warehouses, but in some cases were detected during routine inspections or as a result of complaints.

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1970

Amount	Nature of Food	Amount	Nature of Food
145 tins	Assorted Fruit	121 tins	Assorted Vegetables
20 tins	Soups	12 tins	Milk
1 tin	Spaghetti	34 tins	Milk Puddings
8 tins	Assorted Puddings	1 tin	Cream
2 tins	Bournvita	1 tin	Ovaltine
1 tin	Treacle	83	Unlabelled tins
6 pkts	Cakes	5 pkts	Shortcrust Pastry
14 pkts	Potato Croquettes	26 pkts	Cornish Pasties
2 pkts	Swisse d'elve	36 pkts	Vol-au-vents
3 pkts	Minced Steak Pies	4 pkts	Chicken Pies
2 pkts	Beef Pies	3 cartons	Honey
2 cartons	Yoghourt	2 pkts	Puff Pastry
13 lbs	Sugar	7 lbs	Cereals
39 lbs	Flour	1 lb	Rice
1 lb	Beans	4 lbs	Brussels Sprouts
4 lbs	Peas	2½ lbs	Mixed Vegetables
6 lbs	Chips	14 lbs	Fish
8 lbs	Cheese	11 pkts	Plaice
17 pkts	Fish Fingers	12 pkts	Fish Cakes
7 pkts	Beefburgers	76 lbs	Hamburgers
15 pkts	Lamb Chops	2 pkts	Chicken Portions
4 pkts	Mixed Grill	6 pkts	Steak and Kidney Puddings
6 pkts	Steaklets	5 pkts	Lambs Liver
10 pkts	Beef Sausage	177 lbs	Lamb
49 lbs	Pork	117 lbs	Beef
31 lbs	Chicken	7 lbs	Meat Balls
2 lbs	Sausage	10 lbs	Corned Beef
21 lbs	Boiled Ham	10 pkts	Cod Portions

NUISANCE FROM NOISE

Mainly due to the activities of the District Inspectors there has been a marked decrease in the number of noise complaints and with the increased co-operation from industrial concerns in the town it is hoped this tendency will continue.

The main complaints this year have been from people annoyed by noise particularly during the evening and during the night from Extractor Fans, Compressors and in one case temporary use of grinding machines outside normal working hours.

Noise nuisance has also been caused by stationary public transport vehicles particularly in the early morning.

On the domestic front the main complaints this year have been through noise from dogs which is a hardy annual.

It makes one wonder whether the powers that be have got their priorities right when the dog licence remains at 37½ pence after all these years and we are now awaiting the advent of 44 ton lorries and bigger and noisier public transport vehicles.

On the credit side we have a special section in the Noise Abatement Act prohibiting the use of chimes on ice cream vehicles after the hour of 7 p.m. and rubber dustbin lids are becoming more widespread!

TIPS

Conditions at private tips are showing a big improvement although the occasional tip tends to give trouble from time to time mainly from nuisance from burning. Constant surveillance and the advent of new planning conditions however keeps tip nuisances down to the minimum.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING

A total of 34 visits were made during the year regarding the investigation of infectious diseases. There were 4 cases of Food Poisoning reported during the year, 3 cases of Salmonella Typhi-murium and one case of Salmonella Enteritidis.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The provisions of the Act regarding closing hours, early closing, Sunday trading and the employment of young persons is administered by the Department.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950. (Movement of Animals)

The duties under this section of the Act are carried out by the Lancashire County Council who issue all the necessary licences controlling the movement of animals.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

Ladies hairdressing continues to be a popular business. There are 60 hairdressing premises registered under the provisions of the Darwen Corporation Act, 1948.

Premises are inspected prior to opening and work done to comply with the Regulations.

Re-inspections are carried out from time to time but very little trouble is experienced with this type of business after the initial alterations are carried out.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two premises are licensed under this Act. Both were satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Four premises are licensed under the provisions of this Act. All were satisfactorily maintained during the year for the welfare of animals.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

One establishment was licensed under the Act. Premises are only licensed after the receipt of a satisfactory veterinary report.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951

No action was necessary during the year under Section 17 of the 1948 Act.

One body was buried under the provisions of Section 50 of the 1948 Act, which requires the Local Authority to dispose of the bodies of persons who have died in its area if it appears no suitable funeral arrangements would otherwise be made.

MORTUARY

48 bodies were received at the Mortuary during the year and post-mortem examinations were carried out on them all.

